

**NAME**

lookbib - search bibliographic databases

**SYNOPSIS**

**lookbib** [ **-v** ] [ **-istring** ] [ **-tn** ] *filename...*

**DESCRIPTION**

**lookbib** prints a prompt on the standard error (unless the standard input is not a terminal), reads from the standard input a line containing a set of keywords, searches the bibliographic databases *filename...* for references containing those keywords, prints any references found on the standard output, and repeats this process until the end of input. For each database *filename* to be searched, if an index *filename.i* created by [indxbib\(1\)](#) exists, then it will be searched instead; each index can cover multiple databases.

**OPTIONS**

It is possible to have whitespace between a command line option and its parameter.

**-v** Print the version number.

**-istring**

When searching files for which no index exists, ignore the contents of fields whose names are in *string*.

**-tn** Only require the first *n* characters of keys to be given. Initially *n* is 6.

**FILES**

*filename.i* Index files.

**SEE ALSO**

[refer\(1\)](#), [lkbib\(1\)](#), [indxbib\(1\)](#)

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